

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

ITEM

14

DECISION

TOPIC

Reforestation Planting Preparation Canyon State Park

The Natural Resource Commission is asked to approve a tree planting contract for the reforestation of Preparation Canyon State Park. The project will be funded from revenues generated by the salvage of timber from the park and from Forestry operations.

The forest was severely damaged by a tornado in June 2008. Salvage logging and firewood cutting was utilized wherever trees were accessible throughout the damage path. The result was nearly a clearcut that will allow ample sunlight to planted seedlings. Native trees previously found on this site included bur oak, red oak, black walnut, red elm, white elm, green ash, white ash, basswood, Kentucky coffee tree, bitternut hickory, hackberry, black cherry, cottonwood, red cedar, honey locust, and many understory species.

The contractor will conduct a hand tree planting project consisting of 8,000 seedlings at Preparation Canyon State Park in the Tornado Damaged / Harvested Areas outlined on the map. While the total project area on the enclosed map is approximately 156 acres, contractor shall hand plant trees on only the most suitable sites described below. Herbicides will be applied in 4 ft. circles around each tree to kill and prevent competing vegetation during the first growing season. It is estimated that one-half of the project area, or 80 acres, will constitute the area for planting. Tree shelters will be installed on one-half (or 4,000) of the trees planted. This project consists of 3 tasks: hand planting, herbicide application and shelter placement.

The following bid was received for the reforestation project:

Company	Location	Amount of Bid
Hickory Ridge Forestry, LLC	Council Bluffs, IA	\$36,850.00

The Commission is requested to approve a contract with the low bidder, Hickory Ridge Forestry, LLC for \$36,850.00.

Paul Tauke, Forestry Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
April 8, 2010

Attachment: map

Preparation Canyon Tornado Recovery
Hand Tree Planting Area For Spring Of 2010
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Loess Hills State Forest 150 Acres

